

6 My 09

Library State Am

The Nebraska Independent.

The Wealth Makers and Lincoln Independent Consolidated.

VOL. X.

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA, THURSDAY, MAY 4, 1899.

NO. 51.

News of the Week

The forces opposed to imperialism are organizing in every part of the country. During last week important meetings were held in Boston, St. Louis and Chicago where immense audiences vehemently protested against the abandonment of the principles that have made this the greatest nation on the face of the earth. One of great enthusiasm and earnestness was held by the Germans in St. Louis. There it was stated by Dr. Prentiss that of the 700 German newspapers printed in this country, every one of them was opposed to imperialism. Among the resolutions passed were the following:

"What is there in stalwart Americanism (its native Americanism, if you will), except the German-Americans are saying now in declaring that they gave up home and friends and came thousands of miles into an unknown country for the deep love—not of British colonialism, but of American republicanism. To that they are loyal now and always. To Americanism, not to the British commercialism of the bayonet—to Americanism, to liberty, to progress; to freedom from militarism, to the expectation of a time to come when the world will be no longer shackled by imperialism, with its bayonets and fetters—to that, German-Americans who renounced imperialism in Europe, are as devoted now as they were fifty years ago, when they listened to Seward, as he said to those same 'expansionists': 'Sir, they have sent the American eagle abroad, bearing not the olive branch, but a shackle in his talons.'

"The flag of this great republic stands now—not for what the London Times approves—but for what it meant when Seward stood under it to utter this immortal sentence:

"Such republicanism as that was not his, nor that of any loyal German-American, or of any other American who is loyal to his flag and to his country. May heaven forbid that it ever should be. May the time never come when the American people will applaud those who drabble a flag dedicated to freedom and human progress in the blood of men who die on their own soil relating the same principle of British imperialism against which America triumphed at Yorktown and New Orleans.

"Such ideas will never prevail in America. Any party which commits itself to them will be wiped out of existence.

The eastern Associated press censor did not seem to think that it would be good policy to let western readers know the details of the meeting in Boston. What little was sent indicates that it was an immense and an enthusiastic meeting in which they resolved to continue to stand by the declaration of independence.

The meeting at Chicago was held on Sunday and was addressed by clergy men and others. Prof. J. Laurence Laughlin seems to have seen a new light as he talked differently from what he ever did before. Among other things he said:

"Commercialism has sunk its fangs deep enough into our political life. It cannot go much further without stirring the righteous indignation of justice-loving Americans. Too long has public office been given, not to selected fitness, but to service in advancement of personal ambitions. Great fortunes, rather than great statesmanship, too often fill the senate. Arrogant wealth buys legislation, which should be as cheap for the frugal consumer as for the powerful producer. We send up an appeal which will be followed by a shout of approval from the American electorate—for equality in treatment of all both rich and poor; and for justice to the weak whether white or brown.

"They tell us that we are disloyal, if we do not agree with any and every policy of conquest which may be arranged for us by the government; that we should not increase the difficulties of a bad situation; that we should not shake the arm of the man when he is taking aim. Is it disloyal to keep our nation in the path of honor? We who love our country most, wish most that its flag shall be sustained."

That is an entirely different song from the one that he sang during the Bryan campaign. If he and a few others had been right then, we would not now be fighting for the continuance of liberty on this continent. If Bryan had been president, instead of a Mark Hanna administration buying brown men for \$2 a head we would have had free Cuba without a war. Bishop Spalding of Peoria, Illinois, also made an address in which he said:

"We stand at the parting of the ways.

It is not yet too late to turn from the way which leads through war and conquest to imperialism, to standing armies, to alliances with foreign powers and finally to the disruption of the union itself. It is not too late, because it is still possible even, that the American people will reconsider the whole question of the complications in which our victories over Spain have involved us, and calling to mind the fact that they did not enter into this war for the purpose of becoming an empire, but for the purpose of helping others to throw off the yoke of a tyrannical imperialism, will see that to be blinded and led away by success is to be weak and foolish; or rather, since here the highest interests of humanity are at stake, is to be wicked and criminal. If this may not be, then the American people have degenerated, they have lost their hold upon the historical causes and the political habits which led to the founding of our institutions and to the marvelous growth and prosperity of our country.

"If the inhabitants of the Philippines came gladly to throw themselves into our arms we should refuse to do more than counsel, guide and protect them until they form themselves into a stable and independent government. What, then, is to be thought of those who seem resolved either to rule or exterminate them, believing probably that the only good Filipino is a dead Filipino.

"Was not the Roman empire built on the ruins of the republic? Was it not made possible by the general loss of virtue and patriotism, by the luxury and corruption which the stolen wealth of a hundred cities had spread through Rome? It is only when the inner sources of life run low that men rush madly to gain possession of external things. When the real good of life escapes us, money and what money buys seems to be all that is left. Then men become cowards, liars and thieves. They cringe and fawn and palter. They worship success. They call evil good and good evil. They have no convictions which are not lucrative, no opinions which are not profitable. Then all things are for sale, then demagogues are heroes, then opportunities for plunder are welcome; then the best policy is that which wins most votes and most money."

How very much like populism all this sounds. Those who have been long in the reform work recognize all this as just what we have been saying for the last eight years, often almost exactly in the same words. But when we said it these same men who now repeat our words, declared that we were lunatics. How the world moves!

The military commission appointed by McKinley to investigate the canned and embalmed beef which Phil Armour furnished our soldiers during the war has made a report declaring that the canned beef was good and nutritious food and that there was no processed or embalmed beef furnished at all. Most men have had faith in the honor and uprightness of our regular army officers. This report is a sad shock to them and the worst blow that could be struck at the honor of the army. The proof that the canned beef was not nutritious and was utterly unfit for an army ration was overwhelming. The report is in direct opposition to the evidence. It seems that the Armour trust has been able to demoralize the army as well as every other department of the government. When such a state of affairs exists at Washington, is it a wonder that many conservative men begin to fear that there is no other way out of the sea of corruption except by revolution?

What to say about the condition of affairs in the Philippines would puzzle the most indefatigable searcher for truth. In the first case the close censorship of news exercised there, which Creelman has declared to be more exacting than that of Weyler when he was military dictator of Cuba, must be taken into consideration. The news is not only censored in Manila but also again before it reaches the people. What to believe and what not to believe would puzzle a Solomon. It seems however that peace negotiations are going on but our authorities refuse to grant an armistice until they are closed.

The proposition of the Filipinos is to surrender, if assurance is given that they can have a free government under the protection of the United States. That is not by General Otis, doubtless by the direct order of McKinley, with a demand for surrender without conditions, except as he says that he will grant pardon to the Filipinos for their rebellion. That is the condition of affairs as it has reached us through the censored dispatches.

Little by little the people are being in-

duced to a military government administered from Washington. The postmaster-general issued an order prohibiting the circulation through the mails of certain pamphlets attacking imperialism. With all the dispatches from Manila censored, with the mails at home closed, with a purchased press denouncing every man as a traitor who disagrees with the policy of imperialism, we are fast advancing to either the rule of a dictator or revolution. That is at least the opinion of some of the most conservative men in the United States.

AS TWO PEAS IN A POD

So is McKinley's Imperialism and That of the Monarchs of the Old World.

In his speech at Milwaukee Bryan drew a picture of old world imperialism and the sort that McKinley is introducing into this country. He said:

"Not only are the republicans imitating the monarchies of the old world in their policies, but they are copying the language of monarchs in carrying out their policy.

"In the proclamation recently issued to the Filipinos we find these words:

"The commission desires to assure the people of the Philippine islands of the cordial good will and fraternal feeling which is entertained for them by the president of the United States and by the American people. The aim and object of the American government, apart from the fulfillment of the solemn obligation it has assumed toward the family of nations by its acceptance of sovereignty over the Philippine islands, is the well-being, prosperity and protection of the Filipino people and their elevation and advancement to a position among the civilized peoples of the world."

"Compare this with the language used by the queen in her proclamation to the people of India in 1858, when she said:

"We hold ourselves bound to the natives of our Indian territory by the same obligations of duty which bind us to one another subjects, and in their prosperity will be our strength, in their contentment our security, and in their gratitude our best reward.

"It will be noticed that benevolence breathes through both declarations. And then as to their participation in government a proclamation to the Filipinos says:

"There shall be guaranteed to the Filipino people an honest and effective civil service, in which, to the fullest extent to which it is practicable, natives shall be employed."

"The queen's proclamation reads:

"And it is our further will that so far as may be our subjects, of whatever race or creed, be freely and impartially admitted to offices in our service and duties of which they may be qualified by their education, ability and integrity duly to discharge."

"And yet in spite of those promises made to the people of India today complain that the offices are filled by the younger sons of English aristocracy, while the taxes are paid by the people of India.

The policy of imperialism is always defended on the ground that it is for the good of the people governed, but we have never recognized the right of any nation to benevolently assimilate another nation."

BRYAN IN BUFFALO

An Ovation Never Exceeded to That Given to Any Man in the United States.

The enthusiastic outpouring of the people to hear the Hon. William J. Bryan at Music Hall was the largest and most significant ever held in Buffalo.

It was a cosmopolitan gathering, a meeting of the business men, the professional men and the working men, all eager to hear the great exponent of the principles of true democracy and the standard bearer who leads the common people of the United States in their battles against trusts and republican misrule and corruption.

"The dollar above the man," was the keynote of that part of the masterly arraignment of the republican party by Mr. Bryan in his discussion of the principles, now called for which the party of Lincoln now contends. Opposition to trusts to expansion, which means imperialism, were other keynotes upon which was built one of the most eloquent and convincing addresses ever delivered by William Jennings Bryan.

It was a great and very significant meeting. It was commented upon by republicans as remarkable that between 4,000 and 5,000 persons should fill Music Hall long before 7 o'clock on an April evening, in a political "off year," to hear national issues discussed. It was significant as indicating that the common people have been awakened, and the remarkable campaign of Mr. Bryan in 1896 has borne good fruit.

Mr. Bryan was introduced by Judge Titus. At the mention of his name Mr. Bryan arose and glanced upward, his bright eyes taking in the gallery and then looking calmly over the great mass of people on the main floor; at the same moment almost every man in the hall rose to his feet, the 450 members of the William J. Bryan Club in the front rows of chairs leading in the cheering which greeted the brave, tireless, eloquent leader.

It was a grand scene, men and women cheered, women waved handkerchiefs and flags, hats were thrown high and from end to end and corner to corner of Music Hall rolled and rebounded such cheers as were heard but came before at a political meeting in Buffalo—and that was when Mr. Bryan was similarly cheered in 1896.—Buffalo Times.

SOUND POPULISM.

Senator Harris has a standing in the United States senate that is equal to any man in it. The populists of Kansas who sent him there are as proud of him as Nebraska pops are of Allen. In a letter recently given to the press he says:

"The tendency throughout the civilized world is to increase the power of municipal government. We should cultivate and encourage everywhere the power of municipalities to provide those things which are necessary to a civilized, people without the element of profit, entering into the contributions of the people for the purpose. The general government should also take up such measures and interests as cannot be reached by municipalities or states, and do the same work."

"The real anarchist in this country is the corporation or trust that absolutely defies all laws, tramples upon the authority of sovereign states and that pretends to smirch the ermine of the judiciary. The most effective teacher of socialism is the combination or trust, which by the completeness of its organization enables one or two men to absolutely control the production, distribution and consumption of many of the great necessities of life. Some years ago Prof. Ely stated that the German socialists had discontinued their labors because the combination of capital in the hands of corporations were performing their work more effectively than can be done in any other way, and that all that was necessary was to wait for the fulness of time to demonstrate the correctness of their theories. No man has less regard than I have for much that is called socialism politically. Much of the current literature and teaching of these men seems to me to be mere cant and tends to afford a hiding place for incompetency, ignorance and vice, a leveling down instead of leveling up. I have no sympathy whatever for anything of this sort which destroys the stimulation of legitimate and fair competition, but I have no respect for a government which vacates the field of proper governmental activity and permits the people to be oppressed in the interest of avarice and greed."

WOULD IT BE BETTER

Would life be more tolerable or liberty sweeted with the thought that our sons and brothers were doing deeds of heroism in shooting naked savages? Would we enjoy greater liberty than now? Would taxation be less burdensome? Would the laboring man receive greater wages? Would our homes be happier and our domestic affairs improved? I answer no; it is the first step toward the loss of personal liberty and national independence; it is the entering wedge that will bring our laborer down to a par with foreign workmen; it is the prelude to a condition of domestic turmoil, to a vigorous foreign policy and consequently to a strong central government, because a war nation must have the power to throttle opposition to schemes for leveling men and women with which to maintain itself.—Judge Titus of New York.

THE WAY OF HONOR

Editor Independent:

You asked the farmers to help you edit the independent, and tell them why you ask it and how to render their assistance. If we fail to respond to such an invitation we should be unworthy of such a paper as the Independent.

It seems to me that the two proclamations sent out, one by the president and one by the commission to the Philippines, must have originated in hell and have been suggested by the devil.

Had President McKinley added to his proclamation a few words like the following: "The rights of the Filipinos to an independent government will be respected. The future relations of the United States and the Philippine islands will have to be determined by the congress of the United States and such authorities; after order has been restored; the civilized portions of Philippine people by a free and fair election may designate for the purpose," and had the commission in their proclamation reiterated those ideas, there would have been no war between the United States and the Philippine islands. Instead the commission illuminates threats that makes the blood of every self-respecting Filipino boil with indignation and anger. The slaughter goes on. Horrible horrible!

This course might not have been approved by the monarchial governments of Europe and Asia, but the people of the nations would have approved, and the approval of the people would have saved the United States more honor, more prestige, more power than all the armies she can raise or navies she can build.

A CHRISTIAN DUTY

Why? Why this change? Why, they tell us that it is religious duty. That we owe it to them to kill them! (Laughter.) That they must have our Christianity even if they do not get it till after their death. (Laughter.) I am opposed to forcible Christianity. I find no authority for it in the declaration that man must love his neighbor as himself. When you shoot the gospel out of a Gatling gun, those who are hit do not need the Gospel any more. (Laughter and

continued applause.) And those who are missed are too busy burying the dead to listen to your preaching. (Applause.) Mr. Gage in a speech at Savannah, said that philanthropy and 5 per cent would go hand in hand. Philanthropy and 5 per cent! We have seen them together before. Whenever there has been a war of conquest, you can find that hoary-headed pair, philanthropy and 5 per cent; philanthropy has chloroformed the conscience of the conqueror and 5 per cent picked the pockets of the conquered. (Applause.) Philanthropy and 5 per cent have marched together down the pathway of history, and whenever philanthropy has become weary and rested by the wayside, 5 per cent has gone right on without feeling lonesome. A Christian duty! They mistake the foundation principle of the Christian religion.—W. S. Bryan at Buffalo.

MUNICIPAL MUSIC.

Indoor concerts, though carried on by many European cities, have probably never before been undertaken by any American municipality. Two series of six each, however, were actually given in Music Hall in Boston during the last fall and winter, under the charge of the new music commission. Having been successful in organizing a municipal band of thirty-seven pieces for summer music in the parks, the commission proceeded in the fall to organize a municipal orchestra of thirty-five pieces for winter concerts. The programs were rendered on Sunday evenings, usually to full houses made up chiefly of wage-earners, and were of a high order. The admission ranged from 10 to 25 cents and practically met the expenses. It is intended next fall to open another series of these concerts. Chamber concerts, rendered by a string quartet with the assistance of a soloist and costing from \$50 to \$60 are also given by the commission on week day evenings in the more remote districts of the city. These are free, the cost being borne by a private donation. No money has been appropriated by the city, but it is quite reasonable to expect that when its standing and the demand for it have been more clearly defined, it may be put upon a permanent basis at public cost. A pipe organ, however, has been recently purchased by the city, to be used under the direction of the commission for regular recitals by a municipal organist and other popular projects are in mind.—From Sketch of Mayor Quincy of Boston, by George E. Hooker in the American Monthly Review of Reviews for May.

WOMEN IGNORED.

President McKinley showed a marked indifference to the wishes of American women when he refused to appoint a woman to represent them at the peace conference at The Hague.

The Washington branch of the National Arbitration association, the Federation of Women's clubs, numbering ten thousand, the Woman Suffrage association, the Women's Industrial League, Woman's National Press association, and other organizations passed formal resolutions asking for the appointment of Mrs. Beiva Lockwood of Washington, D. C. as a delegate to this conference. The appointment of Mrs. Lockwood, one of our most distinguished and talented countrywomen, would have seemed most suitable and fitting, as her distinctive life work has been along these lines, and she is now secretary of the American branch of the International Peace Bureau.

Five women were appointed as delegates to the conference to represent the educational, diplomatic, military and naval interests, but the thirty to forty million women citizens and mothers are unrepresented even after petitioning for this small need of justice which should have been granted without the asking. It is a flagrant and direct insult from the president to his countrywomen, which every woman who has a spark of self respect or womanliness should spiritedly resent. Women who have reared sons, oftentimes amid toil, anxiety and hardship, are not to be allowed a representative in this conference which means so much to them, a council where measures looking toward disarmament or toward the decrease of armed forces and the final abolition of wars and their criminal and inhuman practices.

But women must obey the laws which they have no voice in making and to which they have never consented. Every woman, although she owns but a dilapidated cookstove, a wash tub or a sewing machine, must pay taxes to help support this government with all its wicked waste and extravagance. But then consent of the governed is not necessary when it comes to women citizens of this country and the Philippines. Our government, however, is not having as good success governing Filipinos without their consent as it has in the case of women.

V. M. G.

M'KINLEY CHRISTIANITY

Charles Denner of Minneapolis, Kansas, a member of the regiment from that state now in the Philippines writes: "It was fine shooting as it was open ground—speaking of the charge of the Kansas regiment at Calocagan—and we picked them off like quail." He also says: "Company I had taken a few prisoners and stopped. The colonel ordered them up into line time after time, and finally sent Captain Bishop back to start them. There occurred the hardest fight I ever saw. They had four prisoners and didn't know what to do with them. They asked Captain Bishop what to do and he said, 'You know the orders, and four natives fell dead.'"

STILL BELIEVES IT.

Justice Brewer of the United States Supreme Court Says he Still Stands by the Declaration of Independence.

Justice Brewer, associate justice of the supreme court of the United States, in a speech recently delivered in Boston said: "Somehow or other I still believe in the declaration of independence, and do not take kindly to a statement like the following in the September number of the Boston Congressionalist: 'The Rev. W. T. Perrin, one of the ablest of the Methodist clergymen of Boston, defended the annexation of Porto Rico, Hawaii, and any other Spanish possessions, holding that the people of the country are realising the absurdity of the clause in the declaration of independence which says that government derives its just powers from the consent of the governed.'"

The logic of events has made it our duty to do so, and duty is greater than theory. Government derives its power from God, and God alone, and the nations are responsible to him."

"This assumption of divine authority has been the cry of every despot from Lotia XIV, who said, 'I am the state,' to that madcap on the German throne who is credited with saying, 'Me and Gott.' But with a diviner insight and a truer reverence we have believed that government derives its powers from the governed. I glory in the fact that my father was an old-line abolitionist, and one thing which he instilled into my youthful soul was the conviction that liberty, personal and political, is the God-given right of every individual, and I expect to live and die in that faith.

"I know that a Massachusetts lawyer years ago sneered at the declaration of independence as a collection of glittering generalities, but it takes the audacity of a Boston preacher to say in effect that the declaration was a lie. It is true that during the century and a quarter of our existence our conduct has not been always on the plane of our avowed principles. Very few nations, as very few individuals, live up to their high ideals, but surely this has been the ideal of our life, and we have striven to make it more and more real. The great war between the states was but an effort to make those principles more far-reaching."

GOT EVEN WITH SHAFER.

How Sergeant Carroll Marched Shafer (Fourteen Miles Handcuffed, in the Hot Sun.

Jack Carroll, a retired army sergeant, of Topeka, Kan., once arrested General Shafer and marched him fourteen miles down a hot and dusty mountain trail in Arizona. Carroll's own story of how he "got even" is this:

"One day, during a difference of opinion between myself and the officer of the day over a trivial affair, the officer so far forgot himself as to strike me across the face with the flat of his sword, after calling me several vile names. No sooner had the blow fallen than I drew back my fist and with all the strength in my right arm struck the officer between the eyes. He fell about ten feet from me in my mission I ran to him and kicked him several times before he could rise.

"The affair was the sensation of the garrison for about two weeks and was supposed to have blown over, when Col. Shafer heard of it. He sent word for me to come to his office. Here he informed me that he had heard the story and asked me if I realized the enormity of my offense in striking my superior officer. I told him that I did, but would strike any officer who would subject me to the indignity which the officer of the day had.

"Shafer became angry at this reply and said with a sneer, 'You would strike me, I suppose?'

"I quietly answered 'Yes, sir.'

"What with these on? You would strike a man wearing these? Do you dare to tell me you would strike me?'

"I smiled at his anger and told him that I certainly would. He was literally uncontrollable in his passion at this reply. He called an orderly and in a voice heavy with emotion ordered me thrown into the guard-house. In a few minutes afterward he sent another orderly with instructions to the guard to rivet a ball and chain on my ankle.

"I was left in this condition for five weeks without a chance to change my clothing and no opportunity for a hearing of my case. Finally General Miles heard of the affair and ordered me released without a trial.

"From that time to the close of my term of enlistment Col. Shafer was my bitterest enemy and he let no opportunity slip to humiliate me. I refused on account of this enmity, to re-enlist when my term had expired and went down to the little town near the fort and stayed there several weeks.

"One morning a private from the regiment came into the village and told me that the Colonel and a party of officers had gone to the mountain on a deer hunt.

"I saw that my time for revenge on the Colonel had arrived, and hunted up the sheriff. I told him that I would give him \$5 if he would deputize me to arrest the colonel if I caught him violating the game-law.

"I took another man and went up the mountain. When we sighted him he had just shot a large buck. I sprang forward and, pulling my revolver, informed him

(Continued on Eighth Page.)